It is not the intention of this article, however, to make of itself a eulogy upon the Class of '95. What is desired is to call the attention of the Institute to the orchestra which was started at the beginning of this year by the first-year men. They were in a measure unsuccessful in this attempt, since they have been obliged to call upon the remainder of the Institute for assistance. But their appeal has met with praiseworthy recognition. An Institute orchestra has been organized and has been in running order for some little time. An orchestra should by all means succeed here, and any man who has had any success with a musical instrument,—a 'cello, a violin, or even a cornet, for instance, should seek to have his name enrolled at once.

The "Semies" are fast drawing near, and the various professors are thinking up papers warranted to fail ninety per cent. of the students, and so a word or two about the length of the examinations will be apropos. A student should expect at the most an examination which he can just finish in three hours without giving a moment's thought to the questions. But it is surely unfair for any professor to require an examination to be finished by the student in three hours when it takes three and a-half or four hours to finish it decently. Lengthening the time is not the remedy,—the number of questions should be lessened. At times, in the past, when a professor has discovered at the end of three hours that his paper is too long, he has lengthened the time to three hours and fifteen or thirty minutes. How much good do these last few minutes do the student, when over his head is the tramping of men leaving other examinations; the clatter of students rushing down stairs, whistling, shouting, etc.? Can he do anything but work senselessly and with feverish haste? What mark would a professor give on a paper written and worked out in this fashion? It wouldn't be worth very much.

We will venture the statement that seventy-five per cent. of the examinations given in the past, for the student to do himself justice, would have required three hours and a half, on the average, to complete. The time allowed has been three hours. This extra half hour may mean a pass, it may permit a student of precarious standing to remain at the Institute. We do not expect easy examinations, but we do expect justice, and a fair chance to pass our examinations. This chance can only be given, in fairness, by giving examinations which can be and will be completed in the allotted time of three hours.

The TECH wishes to call the attention of the students in general to an idea which, if seriously considered and acted upon now, may be productive of results which would be universally appreciated. It is in regard to the lack of a break in the monotony and hard work of the second term similar to that afforded us by the Thanksgiving recess in the first. To come to the point at once; in the second term we have a holiday, Fast Day, which occupies almost the same relative position in this term as does Thanksgiving in the first. Our Faculty wisely considered the good which would result from a slight rest at the close of the second five weeks in preparation for the harder work to come, and made the Friday and Saturday following Thanksgiving permanent holidays on the calendar, but, singularly, they overlooked the fact that there was an opportunity for a similar concession in the